

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 01809 311530Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 /055 W  
-----311828Z 124030 /45

R 311523Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5179  
INFO USIA WASHDC  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS BONN 01809

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR GW, WB  
SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S STATEMENTS AT AND  
ABOUT THE BERLIN WALL

1. THERE IS NO TRANSCRIPT OF EXACTLY WHAT THE VICE  
PRESIDENT SAID WHEN HE LOOKED AT THE BERLIN WALL.  
HOWEVER, TO KEEP THE RECORD OF HIS VISIT AS COMPLETE  
AS POSSIBLE, REPORTING BY MEDIA OF THIS EVENT IS  
HEREWITH TRANSMITTED.

2. UPI, AP AND DPA ON JANUARY 26 CARRIED THE VICE  
PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT AT THE BERLIN WALL, WITH UPI  
QUOTING HIM AS FOLLOWS: "IN THE COURSE OF HISTORY,  
THERE HAVE BEEN MANY WALLS BUILT...BUT MOST WERE BUILT  
TO KEEP THE ENEMY OUT. THIS ONE HAS BEEN BUILT TO KEEP  
THE PEOPLE IN. WE CAN ONLY PRAY THAT PROGRESS WILL SEE  
THE DAY WHEN THIS KIND OF WALL WILL DISAPPEAR AND ALL  
PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE VALUES THAT WE CHERISH,  
SUCH AS FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY."

3. AMONG THE GERMAN DAILIES PICKING UP THE WIRE STORIES  
IN FULL OR IN PART JANUARY 27 WERE THE HIGH-CIRCULATION  
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BILD ZEITUNG OF HAMBURG (5,167,968) WHICH REFERRED TO  
THE VICE PRESIDENT'S "SOLEMN LOOK AT THE BERLIN WALL"  
AND QUOTED HIM AS HAVING SAID: "WE CAN ONLY PRAY THAT  
THIS WALL WILL DISAPPEAR ONE OF THESE DAYS." WEST-  
DEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE OF ESSEN, NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA'S  
HIGHEST-CIRCULATION DAILY (1,719,613) CARRIED THE  
VICE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT NEARLY IN FULL, AS DID THE

SAARBRUECKER ZEITUNG (CIRC. 216, 571).

4. WELT AM SONNTAG, A WEEKLY WITH A CIRCULATION OF 414,567, IN A JANUARY 30 REPORT WITH A PARIS DATELINE BY ITS CORRESPONDENT KURT LEISSLER QUOTES THE VICE PRESIDENT AS FOLLOWS: "THE FEW MINUTES (THAT I SPENT) AT THE WALL IN BERLIN WERE THE MOST IMPRESSIVE AND AT THE SAME TIME THE MOST DEPRESSIVE OF ALL THAT I HAVE SEEN IN EUROPE." LEISSLER MENTIONS A CONVERSATION HE AND ABOUT 30 REPORTERS HAD WITH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AT THE HOTEL CRILLON IN PARIS, IN THE COURSE OF WHICH THE VICE PRESIDENT AGAIN SPOKE OF BERLIN. LEISSLER WRITES:

"APPROACHED ON 'BERLIN,' MONDALE BECOMES QUITE SOMBER. "I HAD A VERY STRANGE FEELING WHEN I LOOKED OVER THERE," HE SAYS. WHAT A PITIABLE FAILURE. A REGIME LOCKS IN ITS PEOPLE, PREVENTING THEM FROM GOING SOME-PLACE WHERE THEY MAY LIVE IN GREATER FREEDOM. ALL THAT OF COURSE IS WELL KNOWN. BUT ONLY WHEN ONE COMES FACE TO FACE WITH THE WALL DOES ONE GRASP ITS FULL SIGNIFICANCE."  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S STATEMENTS AT AND ABOUT THE BERLIN WALL  
**TAGS:** PFOR, GE, WB, (MONDALE, WALTER F)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/775f47d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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